

**CLAIMS:**

5 What is claimed is:

1. A method of generating an XML schema to validate an XML  
document representing network packet exchanges  
10 comprising the steps of:

identifying transition states of the network packet exchanges being investigated; and

15 generating, based on the transition states, the XML schema.

2. The method of Claim 1 wherein each transition state is represented by an XML element.

20 3. The method of Claim 2 wherein each element is defined.

4. The method of Claim 3 wherein all elements in the schema are in a particular sequence.

25 5. The method of Claim 4 wherein the sequence is the sequence of the transition states of the packet exchanges.

30 6. A computer program product on a computer readable medium for generating an XML schema to validate an XML

document representing network packet exchanges comprising:

5 code means for identifying transition states of the network packet exchanges to investigate; and

code means for generating, based on the transition states, the XML schema.

10 7. The computer program product of Claim 6 wherein each transition state is represented by an XML element.

8. The computer program product of Claim 7 wherein each element is defined.

15 9. The computer program product of Claim 3 wherein all elements in the schema are in a particular sequence.

20 10. The computer program product of Claim 4 wherein the sequence is the sequence of the transition states of the packet exchanges.

25 11. An apparatus for generating an XML schema to validate an XML document representing network packet exchanges comprising:

means for identifying transition states of the network packet exchanges to investigate; and

30 means for generating, based on the transition states, the XML schema.

12. The apparatus of Claim 11 wherein each transition state is represented by an XML element.
13. The apparatus of Claim 12 wherein each element is defined.
14. The apparatus of Claim 13 wherein all elements in the schema are in a particular sequence.
- 10 15. The apparatus of Claim 14 wherein the sequence is the sequence of the transition states of the packet exchanges.
- 15 16. A computer system for generating an XML schema to validate an XML document representing network packet exchanges comprising:
  - at least one memory device to store code data; and
  - 20 at least one processor for processing said code data to identify transition states of the network packet exchanges to investigate and to generate, based on the transition states, the XML schema.
- 25 17. The computer system of Claim 16 wherein each transition state is represented by an XML element.
18. The computer system of Claim 16 wherein each element is defined.
- 30 19. The computer system of Claim 18 wherein all elements in the schema are in a particular sequence.

20. The computer system of Claim 19 wherein the sequence is the sequence of the transition states of the packet exchanges.